CHILDREN'S MUSEUM NEWS

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

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AN INTERIOR PIETER DE HOOGH

GIFT OF EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

A PAINTING OF A DUTCH ROOM

HAVE you ever wished that you could travel to far away countries to see how other boys and girls live? Without going very far from home you can learn about these other children and about the art of their countries too. In the Toledo Museum of Art there are many things which have been brought great distances, and some of these are very old.

Let us think of Holland with its windmills and canals, and its fields of gay tulips. There children wear thick woolen stockings and wooden shoes. Along the canals we may still see the large, square,

red brick houses with polished brass knockers on the doors much as they were three hundred years ago.

There was a famous painter in those days who liked best of all to paint pictures of these houses. Sometimes his pictures show the houses set in gardens with people walking or playing games. But more often his pictures show the rooms inside, filled with warm sunlight and air. One of these pictures of a Dutch room is now in the Toledo Museum.

The artist's name was Pieter de Hoogh. In signing his pictures he spelled his name in several ways, sometimes as de Hoog, and at other times as de Hooch, as well as de Hoogh which is used in our Museum.

When Pieter was only twelve or thirteen years old he was able to paint so well that he became a member of the Painters' Guild in the old city of Haarlem. A guild was really a club formed of all the men who did the same kind of work. There were guilds of butchers and of bakers, and of many other trades too. The painters called theirs the Guild of St. Luke. These guilds decided what prices could be charged for articles which the members made, and they determined many other things as well. Before becoming a member of a guild a boy had to serve as an apprentice for several years. To belong to the guild he had to do excellent work. So while still a boy Pieter must have proven himself to be first a good apprentice and then a good painter.

When Pieter was a young man he went to Delft, the town where blue and white tiles and pottery are still being made. He lived there many years and during that time made his finest paintings.

The picture in the Toledo Museum of Art was painted while he lived there. It is called An Interior. In it we can see a room which he painted in a number of other pictures. Surely he knew this room very well. Perhaps it was one in his own house. And here is a little girl. Pieter de Hoogh's own little girl, Anna, must have been about the age of this child the year that he made this picture. Maybe this is Anna. And surely the woman who is doing the morning work is her mother.

Let us see how this Dutch room is different from our American ones. Perhaps you have already noticed the bed built into the wall like a cupboard. The floors are of tiles, red-orange in the first room and grey and white in the room beyond. White tiles with blue pictures on them decorate the lower parts of the walls. These were probably made in one of the factories of Delft. The door which opens to the garden is a kind which we almost never see in our country. Because it is cut through the middle, the bottom may be closed and

locked while the top is left open like a window. How well Pieter de Hoogh has shown us the hardness of wood and of tiles, and the softness of the heavy blankets. Anna's skirt is soft too. What long dresses little girls wore three hundred years ago, and how difficult it must have been to play in them!

Have you noticed how many vertical, or straight up and down lines there are in rooms? Pieter de Hoogh noticed this too. He also saw many horizontal ones, or those which lie in line with the floor. He saw, also, that together they made square spaces and oblong spaces. Pieter had learned when he was an apprentice, that to repeat these would make his pictures very harmonious. See how many times in this Dutch Interior you can find the quiet vertical lines, the horizontal lines, and the squares and oblongs which they make. Don't forget to notice the windows and the chairs with the shining nails. Look too at Anna and her mother. They stand in tall straight lines. Of course Pieter de Hoogh made them stand that way to repeat the lines of the room. When you look at this picture in the Museum you will find that even the colors have been repeated.

This painter knew quite as well how to balance his picture. You have played on a teeter-totter with one other child bigger than yourself. Can you remember how you moved the board to give the big child the smaller end? See if you can find out how Pieter used this kind of balance in this picture. Remember that dark colors seem to be heavier than light ones.

Do you see how much planning is necessary to produce a really good painting? What fun it is to understand how Pieter de Hoogh worked out his picture problems in this beautiful Dutch Interior!

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Many delightful activities are being offered to the boys and girls who come to the Museum this season.

Hours of music will be given on Saturday mornings by Miriam Macomber, for older boys and girls at 10:00 o'clock and for the younger at 11:00 o'clock.

At 2:00 and 3:00 o'clock on Saturday and Sunday afternoons illustrated art talks will be presented on the Florentines and their Arts, by Eula Lee Anderson. The boys and girls will come to know the great builders, sculptors and painters of Florence and the contributions they made to the development of their beautiful city.

Sound motion pictures will be shown each Saturday and Sunday following the art talks. There will be films showing the life and arts of the people of Italy, travel reels and animated cartoons.

HOURS OF MUSIC FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Saturday Mornings at 10:00 o'clock

Oct.	6	Melody and Harmony in Familiar Songs
Oct.	13	Folk Tunes of Many Lands
Oct.	20	Opera Hour, "Die Meistersinger"
Oct.	27	Rhythm in Music
Nov.	3	Pattern in Music
Nov.	10	Preparation for the Detroit Orchestra Children's Concert
Nov.	17	Preparation for the Detroit Orchestra Children's Concert
Nov.	24	Forms of Music: Round, Canon and Fugue
Dec.	8	Forms of Music: Sonata and Symphony
Dec.	15	Christmas Program

The talks and demonstrations for younger children will be similar in scope to those listed above for the older group.

The specialized class in creative music for selected children will again be conducted by Alice Fellows in Room 203, at eleven o'clock each Saturday.

CHILDREN'S ART TALKS

The Florentines and Their Arts

Saturday and Sunday Afternoons at 2:00 and 3:00 o'clock

Oct.	6-7	What the Florentines Found at Fiesole
Oct.	13–14	A Tuscan Boy, Giotto, Goes to Florence
Oct.	20–21	Padua Calls the Great Painter, Giotto
Oct.	27–28	Giotto in His Beloved Florence
Nov.	3–4	Arnolfo, a Journeyman, Comes to Florence
Nov.	10–11	Ghiberti, the First Great Sculptor of Florence
Nov.	17–18	Brunelleschi, Builder and Sculptor
Nov.	24–25	The Great Master, Donatello
Dec.	1–2	Donatello as a Travelling Sculptor
Dec.	8–9	The Workshop of Donatello
Dec.	15–16	Paolo Uccello and Benozzo Gozzoli
Dec.	22–23	Fra Angelico, Beloved Painter of San Marco
Jan.	5–6	Young Masaccio—"Big Tom"
Jan.	12–13	Filippo Lippi, the Painter-Monk
Jan.	19–20	Domenico, the Son of the Garland Maker
Jan.	26–27	Botticelli and His Song-like Pictures
Feb.	2–3	"Little Philip" Lippi
Feb.	9–10	The Interesting Della Robbia Family
Feb.	16–17	Verrocchio, Sculptor of a General and His Horse
Feb.	23–24	Leonardo, Great Thinker and Great Artist
Mar.	2–3	The Youthful Michelangelo
Mar.	9–10	The Pope's Call to Michelangelo
Mar.	16–17	The Boy, Raphael, of Perugia
Mar.	23–24	Raphael in Florence—Loved by All
Mar.	30–31	Florentine Artists in Rome
May	18–19	Children's Dramatization